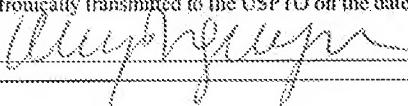


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below.

Date: October 2, 2006

Signature: 

(Quyen Nguyen)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/618,841

Confirmation No.: 4346

Filing Date: July 14, 2003

Inventor(s): Lee R. GUTERMAN et al.

Title: ANEURYSM BUTTRESS ARRANGEMENT

Examiner: V. Nguyen

Group Art Unit: 3734

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patent
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed August 7, 2006, for which a response was due September 7, 2006. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a one-month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to October 7, 2006. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Claims 1-23 were presented for examination at filing. A Requirement for Restriction was issued, setting out two groups of claims and five species. In response, Applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1-14) and Species 1 (Figs. 1-2, and 4), with traverse.

Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the Remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the claims

- 1.-23. (Canceled)
24. (New): An apparatus for temporarily buttressing a neck of an aneurysm within a vessel wall, the apparatus comprising:
a delivery wire having a proximal end and a distal end; and
an expandable and contracted scaffold positioned at the distal end of the delivery wire, the scaffold being configured wherein, when placed within the vessel at a location adjacent the aneurysm neck, the scaffold prevents escape of embolic agents from the aneurysm while allowing blood flow through the vessel.
25. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold comprises fibers.
26. (New): The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the fibers comprise a metal.
27. (New): The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the fibers comprise a polymer.
28. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold comprises a plurality of open cells.
29. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold comprises a mesh.
30. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold comprises a braid.
31. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold comprises an array of wires helically spaced from each other.

32. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold has a cylindrical midsection.

33. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold has a midsection wherein at least a portion of the midsection is covered by a film.

34. (New): The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the film is piercable or foraminous.

35. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold has a tapered distal end.

36. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold has a tapered proximal end.

37. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold is expandable to the diameter of the vessel.

38. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold is contractable to fit within a lumen of a microcatheter.

39. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein a radial or longitudinal dimension of the scaffold is changeable.

40. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising a tracking tip coupled to a distal end of the scaffold.

41. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the scaffold is detachable from the delivery wire.

42. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein delivery wire is hollow.

43. (New): The apparatus of claim 42, further comprising a control wire extendable through the delivery wire and attached to the distal end of the scaffold.

44. (New): The apparatus of claim 43, wherein the control wire comprises a tracking tip at a distal most end.

45. (New): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein an inflatable and deflatable balloon is arranged within the scaffold.

46. (New): The apparatus of claim 45, wherein the balloon is pressurizable and depressurizable by a fluid transmittable through the hollow delivery wire to the balloon.

47. (New): The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the fluid is a liquid medicament.

48. (New): A system for temporarily buttressing a neck of an aneurysm within a vessel wall, the system comprising:

a delivery wire having a proximal end and a distal end;
an expandable and contractable scaffold positioned at the distal end of the wire, the scaffold being configured wherein, when placed within the vessel at a location adjacent the aneurysm neck, the scaffold prevents escape of embolic agents from the aneurysm while allowing blood flow through the vessel; and

a microcatheter sized for delivery within the vessel, wherein the microcatheter defines a lumen sized for delivery of the delivery wire therethrough.

49. (New): The system of claim 48, wherein the microcatheter is sized to allow for passage of an embolic delivery catheter alongside the scaffold.

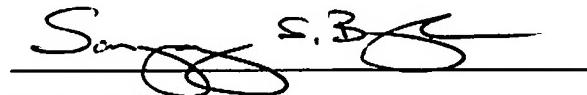
50. (New): The system of claim 48, wherein the scaffold is configured to allow passage of an embolic delivery catheter through the scaffold.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 were pending in the present application. By virtue of this response, claims 1-23 have been cancelled and new claims 24-50 have been added. New claims 24-32, 35-42, 48 and 49 are generic and read on elected species. Accordingly, Applicants believe that, in light of the election presented herein, claims 24-50 are presently under consideration. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application. Applicants respectfully request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the event the appropriate fee and/or petition is not filed herewith and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with this filing to Deposit Account No. 50-3973 referencing Attorney Docket No. NGMDNZ00100. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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